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THE macdonald JOURNAL

OCTOBER 1977



PLAN TO ATTEND QUEBEC FARMERS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING

- Wednesday, November 2, 1977
- 10 a.m. — 4 p.m.
- Centennial Centre
Macdonald College
Ste. Anne de Bellevue
- Guest Speaker at 2 p.m.
Dr. Rodger Schwass
Dean of Environmental Studies
York University
"Socialism in Agriculture"

THE macdonald JOURNAL

OCTOBER 1977

Macdonald Journal
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In This Issue

Cover: Left to right: European larch, Morgan Arboretum Foreman Bob Watson, his son, John, and Norway spruce. The 25-year-old trees were planted by Bob Watson in 1952, the year John was born. For the complete story see page 3.

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Journal Jottings

Many of the decisions you make over the next few weeks — what land to plough, what crops to grow, what seed to buy — are plans for next year; you may have different ones for the following growing season. Other plans are more long-ranging. You don't put up a new silo, extend the barn by 50 feet, or buy additional land, livestock, or equipment without looking well into the future. However, for real far-sightedness I feel you can't beat the person who decides to establish, right from scratch, a forest plantation, a maple grove, an orchard, even a shade tree. It can take from 25 to 50 years to reap the rewards from today's work, but there are and have been men with such foresight, and one of them was the late Dr. W. H. Brittain. The present Curator of the Morgan

Arboretum, Professor Dan MacArthur, tells us about the results of this man's vision in his interesting article beginning on page 3.

Jim Feeny has been connected with the Extension Department for so long that it seems strange to be introducing him to our readers as the new Contributing Editor for the Macdonald Reports pages. Actually Jim, a native of Huntingdon, has written for the Journal before and is far from a stranger to most of the rural community where he is known for his work with the Quebec Young Farmers and for his appearances at fairs and other rural events with the Extension van. We look forward to more contributions from Jim but not before he graduates from Macdonald, when he plans to rejoin our Department.

Joan Habel, who has been looking after Mac Reports will "fill in" for Jim for their next appearance in January. I thank her in advance for this because Joan, her family taking off on their own chosen paths, has finally realized a long-time dream. She, her husband Jay, a new, adorable pup, and a cat that insists that this must be the final move, have taken up permanent residence on their "Ridge" farm in the Townships. Joan will continue as Executive Secretary for the Quebec Farmers' Association and I'm certain, knowing her interest in the Journal, that we may occasionally persuade her to byline an article for us. I hope so for her contributions have been of great value. Meanwhile we welcome Jim and, with more than a trace of envy, wish Joan well in her new career "down on the farm."

Hazel M. Clarke

At the time of writing this guest editorial, I have been back at Macdonald College for almost two months, and at the outset I would like to assure all our readers that it's good to be "back home". For those of you who know very little about me, the following outline of my earlier associations with Mac may be relevant.

I have known Macdonald College from the viewpoint of an undergraduate student (Animal Husbandry Option), a graduate student (Nutrition), and a member of the staff (Departments of Nutrition and Animal Science). In 1967, when I left for the University of Manitoba, I had served as Chairman of the Department of Animal Science for seven years. It is now my privilege to know Macdonald College from the viewpoint of a Dean and a Vice-Principal. The outlook of serving in this new capacity is an exciting, albeit a humbling, one.

Over the past weeks, I have been asked what my impressions of Macdonald College are after an absence of 10 years. I suppose it is only natural that I have found a combination of similarities to and changes from the "old days". Here are a few that have become apparent to me.

The old familiar buldings are still here — the Main Building, the Biology, Chemistry and Agriculture Buildings, the residences, etc. However, the future centre of activities of the Faculty of Agriculture — the Macdonald Stewart Building — has taken definite form and is due for completion in the spring of 1978. The relinquishing of the "old" buildings to John Abbott College over the next two years will

see a shifting of our activities to the eastern portion of the campus.

With the new building construction going on, and more planned for the future by John Abbott College, there is a tendency toward a shrinking of the well-known green spaces of the Macdonald campus. However, the basic beauty of the campus is still with us, and with renewed attention to its care, it is our hope that the physical surroundings of Macdonald College will again be a source of pride to its graduates, its staff, and its visitors.

Let us now turn to "people". Here again I have found a combination of familiar and new faces. I cannot but be impressed and gratified to find many of the staff members of the 40s, 50s and 60s still with us. This is a group of people whose continuing presence on campus speaks for their loyalty and dedication to Macdonald College and its objectives. Along with this group are to be found the "new faces" — the young staff members who contribute new ideas and enthusiasm and are so necessary for the progression of any university faculty. Macdonald College is indeed fortunate to possess this particular combination of human resources.

In looking into the past, it is not difficult to recall the days when our contact with the agricultural community of Quebec was effected primarily via visits from individual faculty members, and princi-

pally with the English-speaking community. While some of this form of liaison may still go on, I suspect that our present contacts are primarily via systems that provide a direct service to the farming community — e.g., the Dairy Herd Analysis Service, the Soil Testing Service, visits to the college farm, etc. Services of this nature are available to **all** Quebec farmers who wish to avail themselves of them. It is my hope that this form of contact will continue and expand in the future.

In conclusion, I would like to refer to the spirit of Macdonald College — i.e., "the Mac spirit". This is something that is almost impossible to define in words — rather it is something that is well-known to all those who have had any significant contact with the college. It might be considered to be a form of enthusiasm that has held together the students, staff, and graduates of Macdonald College over a great number of years. I am delighted to find the Mac spirit still intact in spite of the difficult years of the immediate past; I am confident that it is a strong enough force to enable us to cope with the various problems that will be faced in the immediate future.

I am grateful for this opportunity of greeting the readers of the Macdonald Journal and look forward to meeting many of you on a more personal basis in the near future.

L. E. Lloyd,
Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture
and Vice Principal of Macdonald
College.

The Morgan Arboretum

Forest Plantations

by J. D. MacArthur,
Curator, Morgan Arboretum

Introduction

There are two ways of regarding the investment of time and effort in the establishment of forest plantations. One is that, because it takes so long for trees to grow, the rewards are too far off to justify the project. The other is, for the same reason, that there is no time to be lost in getting busy.

It was the second of these attitudes that led to the early establishment of the Morgan Arboretum plantations. At the very beginning, concurrently with the planting of the Arboretum specimen trees, there was a tremendous effort to start as many demonstration plantations as possible. Completely unconcerned about time factors, except the need for haste, Dr. Brittain, who was at that time Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and the principal promoter of this Arboretum concept, pressed on with the planting of a remarkable variety of species. Nor did he confine the planting to the traditional coniferous species but included also many of the broad-leaved species that had not, and in fact still have not, been much used in reforestation projects in Canada.

As a result of this approach a large number of tree species was established in mini-plantations during the early years of the Morgan Arboretum project. Today, some 30 years later, the results are impressive and the Morgan Arboretum plantations, taken together, represent a most unusual reforestation project.

Scope of the Project

There are now some 37 separate planted areas which range from 0.5 to 4.0 acres in area, and together occupy over 50 acres. The stands range from 7 to 30 years in age with most of them being over 20 years old. The variety of coniferous and broad-leaved species present (Table 1), and the fact that over the years well over 50,000 trees have been planted, give some idea of the scope of the project.

Some Interesting Results

Fast growth is probably one of the most impressive characteristics of any plantation. Most tree planters hope to see the results of their efforts in the form of large trees as soon as possible. Two plantations in particular are good examples of high-speed wood production. Brief descriptions of these, and of a few other notable results, will be of interest.

Norway Spruce and European Larch

A mixed planting of these two alien species (Fig. 1, cover), which was made in 1951 had, at 25 years of age, a total standing volume of 31 cords. The larches averaged 54 feet in height and 8 inches in diameter — the spruces 44 feet and 6 inches. The present volume represents the phenomenal annual growth rate of 1.2 cords per acre for the first 26 years. Actually total production was greater than the existing volume indicates because an additional eight cords per acre were removed by thinning.

Hybrid (European-Japanese) Larch

Even faster growth was made by a plantation of hybrid larch (Fig. 2) which in 18 years produced about 28 cords per acre or 1.5 cords per acre per year. Here average height was 48 feet and average diameter 6.5 inches 18

Table 1. Species in the Morgan Arboretum Plantations

Conifers				
Pines	Spruces	Larches	Arborvitae	
Red	White	Eastern (tamarck)	Eastern white cedar	
White	Black	European		
Jack	Red	Japanese		
Scots	Norway	Hybrid (European-Japanese)		
Korean				
Broad-leaved				
Oaks	Hickories	Ash	Walnuts	Cherry
Red	Shagbark	White	Butternut	Black
Bur	Bitternut		Black	
White				
Swamp white				
Birches	Maple	Poplars	Chestnut	
Paper	Silver	Several hybrids	American	
Grey	Red			
European				
and many varieties				

years after planting.

Red Pine and Norway Spruce

In this 25-year-old, heavily thinned, mixed plantation of pine and spruce the average height and diameter of the pines are 40 feet and 6.5 inches and of the spruce 37 feet and 5 inches (Fig. 3). The total standing volume of the two species combined is about 20 cords per acre. However, annual production here with thinnings taken into account easily exceeds a cord per acre.

Hybrid Poplar

Trees in a 1954 plantation involving three different poplar hybrids have, in 23 years, grown to impressive size (Fig. 4). Many trees are over 80 feet tall and 15 inches in diameter. This plantation has been included in a continuing study by the Canadian Forestry Service of the hardiness of hybrid poplars under various conditions of soil and climate in Quebec.

Black Walnut

Although well beyond the northern limit of its natural range in North America, this species has grown well in the Arboretum. The better trees are 50 feet tall and 10 inches in diameter at age 27 years (Fig. 5). There is considerable production of fruit and rapid growth continues with many trees of good form and vigour now present. However, differences in growth in this plantation provide strong evidence that good growth of black walnut can only be expected on deep, rich soils and warn that it has a limited potential in our region.

The Birch Collection

Following his retirement Dr. Brittain embarked on a Canada-wide study of the species, forms, and varieties of the white-barked birches. This work yielded an impressive list of publications, many co-authored by Dr. Brittain

and Dr. W. F. Grant, on the taxonomy and cytogenetics of the birches. As the collection of material for this study went on a living collection of birches was established in the Arboretum (Fig. 6). This collection may well

American Chestnut

Before it was virtually eliminated from North American forests by the chestnut blight disease this species was highly valued for both its wood and fruit. Today it survives in normal condition in



Figure 2. Hybrid larch (European Japanese) planted in 1958. Average height is 48 feet and volume equals about 28 cords per acre.

be the most complete of its kind in the world. Since it brings together in one place a great variety of birch material, it offers unusual opportunities for a variety of botanical studies.

few places, most of which are outside the natural range of the species. One of these is the Morgan Arboretum where a few excellent trees have survived and grown rapidly for 25 years. They now produce abundant crops of

chestnuts and average about 50 feet in height and 14 inches in diameter.

White Ash

Some white ash trees planted in 1952 are now, at age 25, impressive specimens — 40 feet tall and 10 inches in diameter. Others have not done as well because of unsuitable soils. Growth, which varies from excellent to poor over short distances, suggests that this species should be used with caution in reforestation.

results suggest that this species is also one to be used cautiously in reforestation.

The foregoing brief notes describe a few of the interesting developments in the Morgan Arboretum plantations. There are many more, both good and not so good. These few, however, will serve to indicate the kind of results that were the basis for the earlier statement that the plantations represent a most unusual reforestation project.

result in marked differences in growth. Others have shown that when conditions are favourable impressive stands of trees can develop in 25 to 30 years. In some cases less than 20 years are needed for trees to grow 40 feet in height.

The forest plantations have played, and continue to play, a variety of interesting roles in the Arboretum project. They add significantly to the visual effect of the woodland since they occupy old fields which would otherwise



Figure 3. A 25-year-old mixture of red pine and Norway spruce where thinning by rows and by selection has been practised.

Basswood

The growth of basswood planted in old fields also varied markedly. Within a few feet of the best trees, which at 20 years of age are 35 feet tall and 7 inches in diameter, one finds others that are far from satisfactory. There is good reason to believe that these differences in growth are the result of soil factors. The

Conclusion

The original objective, to develop demonstration plantations of many different species, has certainly been attained. In the process much has been learned, particularly about the problems of reforesting old fields with broad-leaved species. Some plantations have demonstrated that slight differences in soil conditions can

be open, brushy areas. They provide interesting contrasts with the natural woods which surround them. They are examples of the creation of man-made forests and exemplify certain problems that accompany this process as well as being examples of how even-aged forests develop.

Some of the plantations have, by their rapid growth, shown that



Figure 4. Hybrid poplars planted in 1954 where some 23-year-old trees are 90 feet tall and 15 inches in diameter.



Figure 5. Black walnut. The best trees are 50 feet tall at age 27 years. The larger trees are now yielding crops of walnuts.

saleable products may be produced in a much shorter time than is generally supposed. In fact, in recent years, the thinning needed to maintain the vigour of the planted stands has become a major task which, fortunately, yields some returns in the form of saleable or usable wood products. As the plantations grow older they offer greater opportunities for trials and demonstrations of forestry practice.

As the plantations continue to grow and develop their various values continue to increase. Their aesthetic, ecological, and economic attributes will make them an increasingly valuable element in the Morgan Arboretum Association's efforts to promote rewarding management and conservation of private forests.



Figure 6. Part of the birch collection. Tags give origin and chromosome number of each specimen.

Macdonald Reports

by Jim Feeny

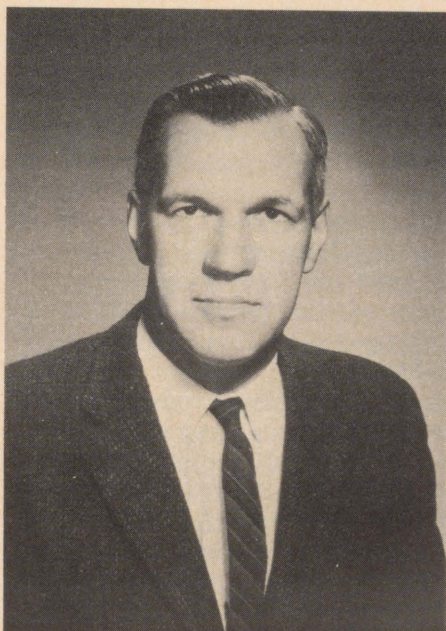
DHAS DIRECTOR'S ACHIEVEMENTS RECOGNIZED

In the early 1960s, Dr. John E. Moxley of the Department of Animal Science here at Macdonald recognized the potential of the computer as a tool in modern farm management. He decided that a computerized livestock improvement program would prove to be invaluable to Quebec dairy farmers, and would provide a useful data bank for research purposes, as well.

After several years of research and planning, Dr. Moxley introduced the Dairy Herd Analysis Service in 1966. At the time, it was the most advanced milk recording program for dairy herds on the continent. Though only 17 herds were enrolled in the Service in the first year, DHAS is now regarded as an essential part of many dairy operations in Quebec and the Maritime provinces. Over 5000 herds, numbering some 200,000 cows, now subscribe to the Dairy Herd Analysis Service.

Dr. Moxley's work with DHAS has gained him an international reputation, and this summer he received two prestigious awards in recognition of his achievements. On June 18, the Ordre des Agronomes du Québec presented him with their highest decoration, installing him as a Commander of the Order of Agricultural Merit. The award is given to those who make exceptional contributions to agriculture.

On August 16, Dr. Moxley was awarded the Canadian Society of Animal Science Certificate of Merit by the Canadian Society of Animal Science. This award was



Dr. John Moxley.

presented at a meeting of that Society held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Agricultural Institute of Canada in Guelph, Ontario. This is only the second time this national award has been given since its establishment in 1972.

Dr. Moxley does not intend to rest upon his laurels. Over the years, DHAS has built up an immense data bank which will be used for research into dairy cattle improvement. We can expect to hear more about this in the future.

STAFF CHANGES

There have been quite a few comings and goings among Macdonald Staff this year. Following is a short summary of the changes in our Staff roster. We welcome the newcomers to our Campus, and wish those who have left well in their new endeavours.

Appointments

PETER ARNTFIELD has been appointed Sessional Lecturer, Entomology Department. Mr. Arntfield obtained his B.Sc. from Guelph and his M.Sc. from Macdonald and is completing his Ph.D. here.

STUART BOWMAN has been appointed Sessional Lecturer, Animal Science Department. Mr. Bowman, a graduate student in the same Department, is a B.Sc., (Agr.) grad from Macdonald and expects to complete his M.Sc. soon.

CALVIN CHONG has joined the Department of Plant Science as an Assistant Professor in charge of Floriculture and Landscape Materials. Dr. Chong did his undergraduate and graduate work at Mac and worked previously in Ottawa at the Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station.

MILLS CLARKE has been appointed Visiting Professor, Plant Science Department.

BERNARD DELORME has been appointed as an Auxiliary Professor, Animal Science Department. Dr. Delorme obtained his B.Sc. and M.Sc. from Université de Sherbrooke and D.Sc. Laval.

ICHIRO FUKUDA has been appointed Visiting Professor, Plant Science Department.

VIJAYA RAGHAVAN has been appointed Assistant Professor, Agricultural Engineering Department, after serving as Research Associate in the Department for three years. Dr. Raghavan holds an M.Sc. University of Guelph and Ph.D. Colorado State University.

TERRANCE SMYRL comes to his teaching position with an M.Sc. University of Manitoba and his Ph.D. University of Alberta. Dr. Smyrl will be an Assistant Professor in the School of Food Science.

ALAN TONG has been appointed Auxiliary Professor, Animal Science Department. Dr. Tong obtained his B.Sc. and M.Sc. McGill and Ph.D. Guelph.

PHILIP WARMAN comes to his teaching position as a Sessional Lecturer, Renewable Resources Department, with a B.Sc. Rutgers University and his M.Sc. and Ph.D. University of Guelph.

SHIRLEY WEBER has been appointed Professor, School of Food Science. Dr. Weber holds a B.Sc. (H.Ec.) University of Manitoba, M.S. Minnesota, and Ph.D. Cornell and was previously on staff in the Department of Foods and Nutrition, University of Manitoba.

Sabbaticals

ROGER BIDER has returned to his work in the Renewable Resources Department. Dr. Bider spent the year reading and writing scientific papers and travelled extensively visiting graduates, parks, and museums across the country to observe and evaluate wildlife programs. He has been appointed Acting Chairman of the Department.

CLARK BLACKWOOD, Microbiology Department, began a year's leave on September 1, 1977 to re-acclimatize himself in teaching and research and to prepare a number of papers for

publication. He is spending the academic session at the University of Victoria and for part of the year will work with international and national committees with which he is associated.

ROGER BUCKLAND, Animal Science Department, has been granted leave from September 1, 1977, to the end of August, 1978, to spend six months at Station de Recherches Avicoles, Centre de Recherches de Tours, INRA, Nouzilly, France, and six months at the Poultry Research Centre, King's Buildings, West Mains Road, Edinburgh, Scotland, to improve his knowledge for teaching and research in the areas of poultry reproduction and management.

GHISLAIN GENDRON, Department of Plant Science, left on June 1, 1977, for Haiti to act as Coordinator of a CIDA sponsored project and as Advisor to the Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture there, returning at the end of May, 1978.

KEITH KEVAN, Professor, Entomology Department and Director of the Lyman Entomological Museum and Research Laboratory, has been granted a year's leave to catch-up with a large backlog of writing-up of research work for publication.

GUS MACKENZIE, former Chairman of the Department of Renewable Resources, began a year's leave on September 1, 1977, when he plans to organize and publish research work carried out over the past several years and to assess his future direction for research and graduate training. He will also visit research stations in the United Kingdom and Europe.

HELEN NEILSON, School of Food Science, has been on leave since May 1, 1977, filling a temporary position for a year to initiate new programs as Department Head in the School of Applied Science at the Riverina College of Advanced Education in Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia.

New Chairman

EDWARD McKYES has been appointed Chairman of the Department of Agricultural Engineering.

Resignations

EDWARD FILLMORE, Renewable Resources Department, and ROBERT HARPER, Animal Science Department, left the University at the end of August to take up other employment.

JOHN OGILVIE, who was for several years Professor and Chairman of the Department of Agricultural Engineering, resigned to accept the position of Professor and Director, School of Engineering, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph.

BENNO WARKENTIN, Renewable Resources Department, has resigned his position in order to accept the position of Director of the Department of Soil Science, Oregon State University. He will commence his new duties this winter.

DIPS ON THE FARM

School started early this year for Macdonald's first-year Diploma

students. The "Little Dippers", as they're called, came in two weeks ahead of the other Mac students to start a two-week course in practical agriculture. They spent their time on the College Farm trying their hand at a variety of farm tasks.

The Diploma semester was lengthened because of a directive from the Quebec Department of Education that requires that post-secondary education in the province consist of so many weeks of classroom instruction. Professor Norman Lawson, Director of the Diploma Program, said that since the Diploma Committee was faced with this requirement, the challenge was to find a way to most constructively use the extra time.

To take the students to the farm was the obvious solution. It would be possible to take advantage of the relatively good weather to actually put the students out in the field, where they could see — and try — different farm jobs. In addition, the extra session would coincide with some of the harvesting operations at the College Farm, thus giving the students the opportunity to participate in this important farm activity.

Professor Lawson calls the two-week farm practice session an "educational experiment", as it is the first time such a project has been tried here at Mac. He hopes to make the First Year Dips a more homogenous group in terms of farm experience. This, he says, should make the students more attractive to potential employers. Hence, the students spent the two weeks on practical tasks. To name a few of these, the Dips drove tractors, built

fences, fed cattle, and picked rocks (there were a few groans from some of the Eastern Townships farm lads when this was announced!).

Rudi Dallenbach, Manager of the Macdonald College Farm, played an important part in the training session, providing facilities and demonstrators for the various farm operations. He said that his main objective was to teach the terminology and relationships inherent to practical farming. He felt that when a Diploma student learned about the nutritional values of corn silage in Nutrition class, the student should be able to picture in his mind just what a silo is, what silage looks like, and what machinery is needed to plant, harvest, store, and feed the crop.

Mr. Dallenbach also said that the differing degrees of farm experience that the students possessed caused him no bother. About half of the 45 First Year students come from farms and, though the rest have at least one summer's experience on a farm, it's hard to find any other common denominator. Many come from urban centres in Quebec, but some come from far afield. One girl is a veteran of the Israeli Army.

Rudi Dallenbach's solution to this problem of varying experiences was to assume that everybody knew nothing and start with the basics. The approach seems to have worked, too. Lynn Forgrave, Director of Farm Practices for the Diploma Program, says that the inexperienced students would ask questions that just would not occur to the farm kids — the latter had been doing certain operations for so long that they

never gave a thought to the reasons why they were doing it. It's likely that many were surprised at what they didn't know! Also, the less experienced students tended to ask the more experienced ones about the various things they saw. This caused the experienced students to think things through so that they would be able to adequately answer questions.

Indeed, the fact that the students from farms were asked to perform tasks that they had done hundreds of times at home seemed to cause little, if any, resentment. One farmer's son told me that if you kept an open mind, you could really learn a lot: different ways of doing things, the theory behind certain farm practices, and so on. He also commented that the two-week training session enabled him to learn a lot about the College Farm — how it's operated, what is produced, who the staff are. He counted this as an important benefit.

None of the students I spoke with had anything negative to say about the training session. Inexperienced students could not begin to describe all that they

had learned, and experienced students counted the time well spent for a variety of reasons. The Dips will continue with their farm practice program throughout the year, spending a few hours a week on tasks of a more "inside" nature as the season progresses. By the end of the year, Professor Lawson's objective of ensuring that all Diploma students have acquired certain basic skills to use on their summer jobs should be assured. The students seem eager to learn, and every opportunity is being provided for them to do so.

Rural Youth in Action

by Kevin Boushel,
Secretary-Manager,
Quebec Young Farmers

Many Young Farmers, from all over the province, are filled with fond memories of good times, new friendships, and pride in activities and projects successfully completed during this past summer. Indeed they have reason to be proud.

The Quebec Young Farmers Provincial Federation dates from 1969, when a group of young farmers from the Eastern Townships, the Chateauguy Valley, and western Quebec decided that the province of Quebec should have a provincial federation which would link together all anglophone clubs. The federation has grown over the years and now has some 600 members in 14 clubs. The major objectives of the federation are: to serve as a medium of exchange within and outside the province, to provide material and information for challenging projects, to serve as a voice for and as a means of unity to Quebec rural youth. The following summer events are some of the ways in which these aims have been fulfilled.

The second Annual Provincial Calf Rally was held in Ormstown in July and can be considered a complete success. One hundred and twenty Young Farmers (105 with calves) from the Eastern Townships, the Chateauguy Valley, Lachute, and Shawville competed in open calf classes, showmanship, and the judging of cereals, forages, and cattle. Along with this more serious part of the weekend, there were social activities such as a games evening, a banquet and dance, and a "for fun auction". Although this kind of activity allows many of the



Auctioneer Roy Templeton and his able assistants Kevin Boushel, John Kelly, Larry Ness, and exhibitor Jan Driver try to raise the price of beef at the "for fun" auction held at this year's Calf Rally in Ormstown.



The Annual Calf Rally is one of the major provincial activities of the Quebec Young Farmers.

members a chance to gain experience in the art of showing cattle, it also affords members a chance to make new friends, associate with different people from across the province, and gain experience in organizing an event of this nature. All of the work to put on the Calf Rally was done by the members themselves, although it should be mentioned that without the advice and help of individuals, such as adult leaders, and financial assistance from many companies and the Ministry of Agriculture, the Calf Rally would not have been such a success.

The Quebec Young Farmers also participate in activities on the regional level. The clubs in the Chateauguay Valley hosted 40 members of a Young Farmers' Organization from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The visitors were shown the many points of interest in the Chateauguay Valley and Montreal. They were taken on a tour of farms throughout the Valley, as well as the Macdonald College Farm. Enough time was also left for them to become better acquainted with the host family. A square dance and corn boil were some of the social events enjoyed by not only the young farmers but also by their parents and families. Throughout the week-long exchange, agricultural and cultural differences were compared and much was learned and enjoyed by both of the groups. The host families played a very important role in this exchange. Their openness, enthusiasm, and willingness to help is the major reason why the exchange was so successful.

Each Young Farmers' club has its own activities: many are educational projects, such as the study of the use of artificial insemination; some are fund raising and social activities, such as dances, fashion shows, or ice-cream socials, and others are interest projects, such as showing calves, or growing a garden. All of the activities are fantastic learning experiences which help the members learn more about themselves and their counterparts.

Whether on the local, regional, or provincial level it can well be seen that the Quebec Young Farmers are an active group of young people, organizing activities for themselves, for their own benefit, as well as that of the entire rural community.

At each of the local fairs, members participate in the 4-H Day, showing and judging cattle. While increasing their interest, they are also making their own contribution to possibly one of the most important rural community activities of the year.

It should be added that the end of summer does not bring an end to the activities of the Quebec Young Farmers. October will see a leadership conference and an Annual Meeting.

The leadership conference, to be held on September 30, October 1 and 2, allows the executive and directors of the provincial federation a chance to review the activities of the Quebec Young Farmers and to see exactly in what direction they are headed. It will be an opportunity for them

to plan for the coming year. The Annual Meeting, to be held October 21, 22 and 23, is open to any of the members of QYF, including adult leaders, and any others interested in the QYF. In November a trip to the Royal Winter Fair is planned, and there are numerous other events scheduled for the individual clubs throughout the entire year.

The Quebec Young Farmers are interested in agriculture and rural life and are trying to provide social and educational projects and activities for English-speaking rural youth in the province. They should be congratulated on their efforts to fulfill their goal.

Any additional information required may be received by getting in touch with the provincial office:

Quebec Young Farmers
Box 237
Macdonald College, Quebec
H0A 1C0
514-457-6580, local 228

Management by crisis must stop!

by H. Maynard, Dip. '78
and P. L. Appleton,
Department of Agricultural
Economics

Agriculture in Canada is not in a particularly contented state, nor has it been for any substantial amount of time in recent years. The problems have been coming from every part of the agricultural sector and include the issues of supply and demand, resources, prices, farm income, stabilization programs, attitudes and policies of government and business, transportation and organization.

In the way Canada has been evolving politically, economically, and socially, one main area can be pinpointed as a basic cause of most of the above problems. This is the absence of a well defined place for agriculture in Canadian society, with a clear picture of its purpose and its objectives. A re-evaluation of who the farmer is and what he does has to occur in response to changes that have taken place in other sectors of society and the economy. Agriculture has undergone immense changes in recent years, basically in the scientific and technological fields, yet many attitudes, values, and goals remain the same. In addition there have been changes all around the agricultural sector, and the power base of the rural community has steadily slid away to larger urban locations.

As a consequence, agricultural policies and initiative on the part of government, business, and farmers tend to be isolated to

particular situations, are fragmented across the country in application, and generally result in a situation of management by crisis. Until this problem of a lack of a defined place and direction for agriculture is resolved the situation will not improve.

Agriculture has always been part of the backbone of this nation, although that might not seem apparent these days. Canada's original economic base was agriculture, and today agriculture can be associated with a substantial portion of the Canadian economy — all the inputs it purchases, all the jobs that are created processing its raw products. Furthermore, agriculture provides products that are a basic need to every person — food. When things get tough we can do without our gold rings and flashy ties but we cannot do without food. One could almost say that the farmer must be prosperous if the nation is to be prosperous. The situation at present is not overwhelmingly bad, but a rotten tooth does not go away by itself. If Canada's banking system was up and down as often as agriculture, there would be a hue and cry all over. Agriculture is taken for granted and the power position of farmers, although substantial considering their numbers, is insufficient at present to take on the government and business structures of today. Having a stable and relatively prosperous agricultural sector would certainly be an asset to Canada, and to that end the

problem has to be tackled and resolved as quickly and effectively as it can be. There is too much at stake to let agriculture run slipshod for too long a time.

Agriculture, like other sectors, is characterized by certain structures which give it identity and enable it to function. It is the dominance of some of these structures and the lack of others that have resulted in the agricultural situation of today. One structure that has permeated agricultural life throughout is the family farm. It is still around and still forms the basis of rural life in many communities. But the Canadian farm has gone from producing enough for the farmer and his family — the classical family farm — to producing for the majority of Canadians living off the farm. The structure and technology of farming is definitely changing, yet there are attitudes which are not. These attitudes are expressed in the approach farmers, governments, and business representatives take to agriculture. The farmer's attitude views the family farm as a way of life, yet this attitude is becoming increasingly incompatible with running a profitable farm operation and if it pervades and precludes any other approach to farming, then it should be questioned. The family farm should only be included in the objectives of farm policy as long as it is efficient. If there is nothing wrong with the family farm operation, other policies and benefits should be implemented to alleviate problems.

Another important structure of agriculture is that of farmer organizations. Agriculture has gone from the individual farmer, through a variety of organizations, to the present day where a predominance of economically oriented and motivated units exist. Although a great deal of political activity has occurred through farmers and their movements, the activism of farmers in an attempt to improve their lot has peaked and waned, the last really strong effort ending with the CCF being assimilated with the urban constituents and the NDP. At present, there are only two national (political) organizations, the CFA and the NFU. In comparison, there are 1,200 or so co-ops in the country, with an increasing proliferation of marketing associations and boards supported by government legislation. The farmer has clearly placed his hope for the future in economic rather than political organization, which, combined with an "unsympathetic, insensitive and uninformed urban public" (from "A History of Farmers Movements in Canada") has led to the isolation of the farmer. "On the whole, farmers are organized in ways that are relatively ineffective, in comparison with organizations of labourers, professionals and business" (from "Farmers Organizations and Movements"). In order to achieve an improved position for agriculture through defined objectives, farmers must strengthen their political representation.

What is meant by a well defined role? Previously, farmers pro-

duced because there was a need for their products. Only prairie grain growers do the same now, because the outside world needs these supplies badly. But when one considers other commodities, Canada often imports as much food as domestic production provides, much of which could be produced by Canadian farmers at a higher cost of production. If the objective is to provide food as cheaply as possible, then that should be stated by the government, and let domestic producers who cannot compete go down the drain. If we profess to support and encourage agricultural production as a benefit to society and its economy, even though the cost in the short run may be slightly higher, then that should be stated and acted upon as well. Agriculture must be established in a role, with objectives that it should accomplish to benefit itself and society in general. Granted, without society itself having well defined goals it is hard to apply agricultural goals to societal benefit. But agriculture can make its own start. If the family farm is going to help agriculture, let's emphasize it. If it's not, let's find and establish structures to replace it so that agriculture can become more productive for society. If agriculture is important, then why do we give up prime agricultural land to urban encroachment and hobby farmers? The assumption would be that agriculture is not important, but has anyone anywhere in officialdom actually stated that?

A national objective is needed to re-establish the course of agriculture, with the participation of all those involved — farmers, government, business, and consumers. The issues are complex and there are bound to be conflicts. The problem is broad and difficult. It is not a matter of growing a little more here, and a little less there. The issues are more fundamental and require the thought and action of many different people and a desire to keep agriculture an important part of our economy and society as a whole.

If it is accepted that fundamental changes on an organized and sincere basis are required, then the challenge is certainly with a different outlook. We cannot continue with old ways or temporary "I'm all right Jack" attitudes. Agriculture must manage by objectives, not by crisis.

The Family Farm



Published in the interests of the farmers of the province by the Quebec Department of Agriculture.



PATRICE BIRON OF SAINT-AGAPIT (LOTBINIERE) — COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF AGRICULTURAL MERIT

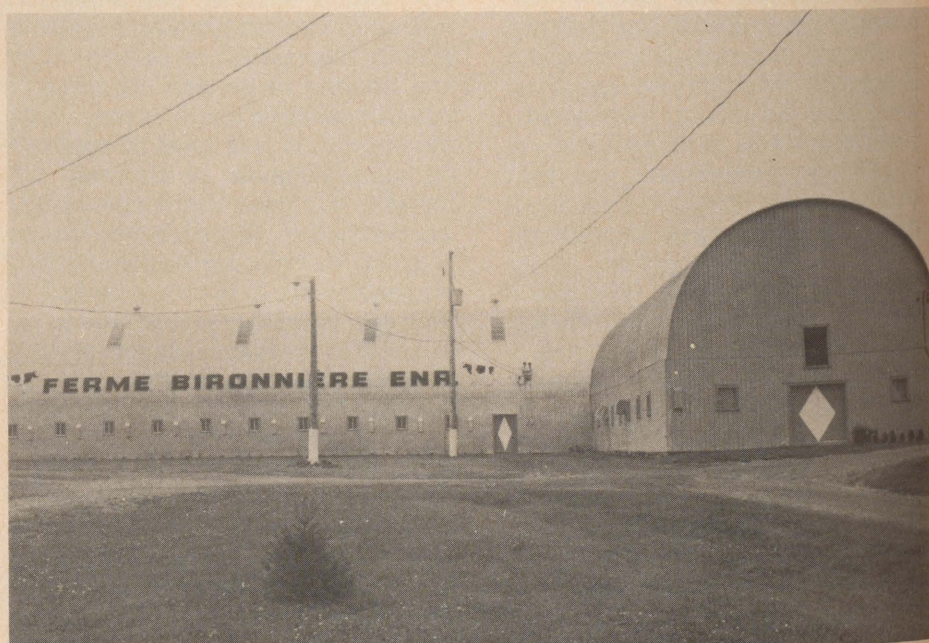
Patrice Biron, a 35-year-old dairy producer is Commander of Agricultural Merit and 1977 gold medalist in the annual competition. What a fitting way to mark his tenth anniversary as owner-operator of the family farm at Saint Agapit (Lotbinière)! A 1960 graduate of the Sainte-Croix Agricultural School, he completed his practical training as a farm hand on various cattle farms in Quebec, Ontario, and the Canadian West.

Vying for the silver medal in 1972, he placed twelfth with 865 points. The 903 points which the judges awarded him this year bear witness to the improvements made in the past five years, namely to his herd and buildings. In fact, the number of Holsteins increased by 15, climbing from 80 to 95 head, which at present are all purebreds. The number of cows was increased from 40 to 45 and their average individual yield in 1976 amounted to 16,250 pounds, an improvement of more than 3,000 pounds. The production index (B.C.A.), which just five years ago averaged 143-143, now stands at 151 for milk and 152 for fat. Forty-three heifers, young cows, calves, and two bulls round out the herd whose annual production of some 700,000 pounds of milk is intended for consumption as fluid milk.

Right from the start, Patrice Biron did not waste time in gradually replacing his crossbred animals by



Some of the 45 cows belonging to the "Ferme Bironnière Enr." which, with a 1976 average production of 16,250 pounds of milk, is one of the best in Quebec.



The huge barn consist of two sections built in 1966 and 1976 and measuring 115 by 35 feet and 125 by 36 feet respectively. It can comfortably house up to 100 head of dairy cattle.

purebreds originating in his own herd and from purchased animals.

The insemination of his animals is done through the A.I. centre at St-Hyacinthe. In 1970 he gave up Postal milk recording for R.O.P. and, since 1967, his herd has been officially classed as follows: three excellent cows; 15, very good; 21, good plus; and one, good. Only five young cows remain to be classed. The milk recording summary for the herd for the year ending December 31, 1976, lists individual milk yields ranging from 10,608 to 24,427 pounds. Several of the animals were trophy winners at exhibitions in Quebec, Trois-Rivières, Montmagny, and St-Agapit.

The herd is comfortably housed in a barrel-roof barn built in 1966 and enlarged in 1976. This building is modernly equipped, as is the milkhouse with a bulk cooling tank holding 5,540 pounds. The farm machinery is stored in a spacious machinery shed which has a concrete floor. The Biron family live in a modern house constructed in 1975; their former residence now houses the farm hand.

The "Ferme Bironnière Enr." has a total surface area of 275 acres, 225 of which are under cultivation. Grasslands take up 135 acres; pastures, 60 acres; and cereal crops (wheat and barley), 30 acres. All crops grown on this rich soil are intended exclusively for the herd whose feeding is supplemented by an annual purchase of some 115 tons of concentrates. The soil is fertilized with manure and chemical fertilizers. A soil analysis has been made regularly



In his barn office, Patrice Biron proudly reviews the numerous trophies he has won as a dairyman.

during the past 10 years and in the last five years, 400 tons of lime have been applied. The 60 acres devoted to white clover pastures are submitted to a four-year rotation and the 165 acres seeded to hay and cereals are cultivated on a six-year cycle.

The excellent reputation which the gold medalist has earned for himself has resulted in his representing the Province of Quebec on the national executive of the Holstein-Friesian Associa-

tion of Canada. He is also director of the Lotbinière County Holstein Club and member of the Quebec Exhibition Dairy Cattle Committee. Mrs. Biron, a well-informed housewife, devotes her free time to teaching the art of cooking and baking. The couple have two children — Stéphane, 10, and Eric, 8 months.

The gold medal officially recognizes Mr. Biron's persevering work and personal qualities as a dairy producer.

WINNERS OF THE AGRO-YOUTH COMPETITION

by Diane Sévigny

"The Processing of Milk" — it was with this topic that the Saint-Stanislas Rural Youth Club in Champlain County won the 1977 Agro-Youth Competition.

The 31 groups participating in the competition organized by the Quebec Department of Agriculture each had to present a project on one of the agricultural productions in their respective region.

What happens to milk?

Already familiar with dairy production techniques, the young participants from Saint-Stanislas asked themselves the basic question: "What happens to the milk our parents and neighbours produce?"

Once the question was asked, there remained only to answer it, and this they did by listing a variety of uses such as fluid milk, cheese, ice cream, yogurt, butter, UHT milk, powdered skimmed milk, cream, condensed milk, evaporated milk, and dairy research.

The Group

In all, 17 young people took part in the Agri-Youth Competition. For some of them it was their second try as entrants and, as one of the girl members openly admitted: "We profited by last year's experience in that this time we were able to avoid repeating the same mistakes."

Their entry this year was, in fact, a continuation of the project presented in 1976. The members explained that last year they concentrated mainly on the production phase of milk, treating such aspects as the feeding and health of dairy cows, the milking process and the conservation of milk. Since in 1976 they merely touched on the production of dairy products, they decided this year to look more closely at the processing of milk.

Several Surprise Findings

The group learned considerably from such a wide-ranging study. The manufacture of dairy products continued to surprise them.

One of the three boys in the group was especially interested in the production of butter in the dairy which was visited and, after close observation, attempted to explain in his own terms what he had learned. One of the girl members added that she was particularly surprised by the quantity of milk needed to produce one pound of butter, that is, about 25 pounds of milk for one pound of butter. Another of the girl members was surprised to learn that bacterial cultures were used in the production of yogurt. She had always assumed that bacteria and food products did not go hand in hand.

The group gave special consideration to research carried out in the dairy sector. Christiane, in charge of this aspect of the project, did not like to see so many milk residues going to waste in the dairies. She explained that since we do not know how to use these residues, we dispose of them and even pollute the environment with them. Consequently, more research should be carried out on recycling such wastes.

Completing the Project

Céline Dessureault, the club's president and project leader, pointed out that each member did his or her share of the work and that, in all, the group spent from four to five months collecting the data needed to complete the project. Although the members had sent numerous letters to several outlets, they did not receive the anticipated response. Christiane and Céline did not understand why people refused to cooperate and attribute such an

attitude to the fact that perhaps they did not wish to reveal their secret process or formula. Many of those contacted failed to realize that this was a study carried out by young people, and that, therefore, all that was required was general, basic information rather than involved technical descriptions. Most probably the group was not alone in requesting information on the processing of milk.

Unrivalled Competitors

Céline explained that they did not have any rivals in their region since one group was eliminated. Nonetheless, her group had to attend the regional interview to obtain the mark needed to go on to the provincial phase of the competition and, ultimately, to their coveted first prize in Quebec City.

Club Activities

The competition is the main activity of the Saint-Stanislas Rural Youth Club. The prize money of \$150 won at the regional level and the \$300 provincial purse will be used for socio-cultural activities. Céline Dessureault disclosed that the group is intending to take in "Théâtre de la Marguerite" and is also planning a trip to a locality still to be determined. In the past, the group visited Montreal, Ottawa, and Quebec.

With harvesting, school opening, and other activities, the Saint-Stanislas youth group has no time for boredom. Despite all their plans, studies and recreational and social involvements, they still find time to think about a new topic for their next group project.

President's Picnic Luncheon

Early in August 21 members of **Ormstown Women's Institute** (Chateaugay-Huntingdon Co.) met with one purpose in mind — sociability. This was the day of the annual outing — The President's Picnic Luncheon. This month the motto was "Don't worry about growing old; some folks don't have that privilege." While speaking of privilege, it was just that on our meeting day; a great privilege to be invited to this outing and to have health to enjoy it all.

The outing was held at the summer home of Mary and Andrew McGerrigle (Mary is our Secretary). Their home is situated on the St. Lawrence River at Port Lewis, a delightful spot where we could gaze over the river, sunny and smiling under an August sun. The St. Lawrence is about three miles wide at this point, with the Ontario shore just visible.

Their charming cottage is partly encircled by huge elm and maple trees, and it has lovely lawns sloping gently to the shore. Flowers abound.

Members and guests wandered around, admiring, chatting, or sat idly drinking in the beauty all about them. Some sniffed appreciatively as tantalizing odours arose from the outdoor barbecue, or gazed at the array of salads, corn on the cob, rolls and cake. At noon Mrs. McGerrigle and her daughter arranged the meal buffet style, and guests drifted to tables thoughtfully prepared. Meals eaten out-of-doors have a special flavour, and this one was thoroughly enjoyed. Members delighted in making momentous decisions — one or

two cobs of corn? hot dogs or hamburger or both? All this spiced with lots of laughter.

When the tables were cleared, the members formed a semi-circle in front of the head table. President Willa Hooker opened the meeting; members recited the creed; Secretary Mary McGerrigle read the minutes; Treasurer Claire McCaffrey gave a very satisfactory financial report and conveners' reports were given by Mrs. Anderson, Health, Mrs. Black, Citizenship, Mrs. Miller, Agriculture, and Mrs. Mack, Publicity.

A lively discussion followed each report. Our only regret was that two of our members are in the Barrie Memorial Hospital. Cards were signed to remind them that we remembered. The meeting then adjourned. All too soon the descending sun warned that "day was dying in the West", and we said farewell to our hosts. The day is past but memories linger.

"A poor world this, if full of care, We have no time to stand and stare!"

Margaret McCrae Mack
Publicity.

A Visit to an Old-time Mill

The members of **Shipton WI** (Richmond Co.) enjoyed an afternoon at Denison's Mills recently. The Mill, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. James Quig, has been returned to its original state and has been declared an historic site by the Department of Cultural Affairs. Mr. Quig explained in detail the operation of the mill which was founded by Avery Denison in 1850 and became operational in 1855. It was operated by members of the Denison family until 1963. Mr.

Quig hopes that eventually it will operate again as a grist mill. Upstairs there is an exhibition of pictures of the area and the families living there in the past when it was a complete community, having its own mills, church, school and so on.

During the afternoon, members enjoyed delightful shortbread made by Mrs. Quig from a century-old recipe, brown bread, soft drinks, and coffee. An old-time fiddler from St. Georges de Windsor, accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Quig, delighted everybody with music of bygone days. So ended a happy afternoon!

A Euchre Party

Every autumn we hold a Euchre Party. However, I must point out we are not alone in this as many other organizations also revert to this method of making money. But ours is the last one of the year.

When the subject comes up for discussion at the October meeting there is complete silence. Why? Let me explain. In order to have a successful Euchre we must have prizes "en masse". Well in order to get prizes one must canvass or collect. Naturally the silence—for who wants to go soliciting!

Then someone comes up with an idea, such as, "I will donate some prizes". President, "Very good ladies, but you know we must have a few real good prizes." Well, at this point a half dozen of us break down and agree to go soliciting.

However, our '76 Euchre was an exceptionally good one—in fact

Mrs. Wm. Pearson, Ascot WI, received a 50-year pin from President Mrs. E. Marlin at a recent meeting.

from my point of view it was one of the best. The reason being the great generosity of the companies, banks, and others contacted. Our prizes were very good, and we had more than enough!

The crowd was good too and everyone enjoyed the evening. We served coffee and different kinds of bread and cookies.

Everyone got a prize regardless of the number of games won. Of course, those with the most wins got the better prizes. We played eight games with each game lasting eight minutes. There were door prizes also.

Well, we made a lot of money too, but somehow it doesn't last too long. We always seem to be donating to something, remembering someone in hospital, or someone who has had bad luck. We must admit, however, we all had a lot of fun. In addition we were very proud of our accomplishment. Everything went so smoothly.

Knowing our President, I have a feeling we will all be doing the same thing at the same time again this year. So I hope we can have another tops!

Mrs. Alma Jack,
Publicity Convener,
Valcartier WI.

Former Member Guest Speaker

The **Fordyce** WI (Missisquoi County) recently had as guests Mr. and Mrs. Pat Bays of Malawi, South Africa. Mrs. Bays was a member of Fordyce before moving to Malawi two years ago. Mr. Bays, formerly of Vancouver, was sent to Malawi by the Anglican Church Diocese. The Bays showed beautiful slides of their time in Malawi, the people, customs, scenery and some of the homes. One particular slide showed their "laundromat" — the women and houseboys doing the daily washing in the river. There are

no known washing machines in Malawi, only good old elbow power.

A display of beads, trinkets, carvings, etc. was set up. A small alligator skin and a large python skin were also on display. Mrs. Bays showed a beautiful piece of material which she modeled as a wrap-around skirt.

During the tea hour members had a chance to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Bays as well as with a friend of theirs from England, Mrs. Walker. Mrs. Walker, a registered nurse, worked in the Mission Hospital at Malawi where Mrs. Bays also worked.

Compton at the Fair

Compton County WI had "Recycling" as their display at Cookshire Fair this year, and we soon learned that we should never throw anything in the garbage.

On the Thursday afternoon before the Fair representatives from the six WI branches of Compton County gathered at the main building on the Fair grounds to arrange the display.

There was a crazy patchwork quilt and several rugs made out of old cotton or woollen materials. Other items included: an apron and lunch cloth made out of flour bags, a linen table cloth made out of linen table napkins put together with crocheted insertion, afghans made out of old sweaters and woollen materials.

Plastic was very prominent. There were Christmas trees as table decorations, Christmas bells and a piggy bank made out of plastic bottles. Handbags, a belt, and cosmetic cases knitted or crocheted out of plastic bread wrappers, and skipping ropes and a plant hanger braided out of plastic wrappers. As well there were new candles made out of old wax melted down and tinted; a miniature doll table and four chairs made out of tin cans with a black vinyl top; waste paper



baskets from plastic egg cartons; a brown squirrel made out of old soap; a cap made out of soft drink cans crocheted together with an acrylic yarn; a miniature town made out of milk cartons; a table arrangement with plastic as the vase, and book marks made out of bread chips; as well as many other items.

As an added attraction for the children, they were to wrap a gift, make a wildflower arrangement, create an animal from vegetables and recycle a throw-away. These were all done in front of judges.

Then there was a Pet Show: Nicest pet, best dressed pet, best mannered pet, smallest pet, best groomed pet, most tricks, curliest hair, friendliest pet, bluest eyes. A frog-jumping contest for both children and adults was also greatly enjoyed.

There was a guessing contest for everyone. Guess the number of white stones in a jar with first prize a cushion, second prize a painted picture, and third prize a macramé plant hanger. These prizes were donated by East Clifton WI. Articles were donated by Institute members for a fish pond and the proceeds from both will be used for our bursary.

A Greeting

Mrs. Barbara Harvey, **Dunham** Publicity Convener and Missisquoi County Secretary sends along this poem she composed and sent as a County Greeting to **Brome** County on the occasion of their 55th Anniversary:

Our County sends to your County
Best wishes to you all.
Your 55th Anniversary — the things
you will recall!

The kind deeds done for others —
The many friends you've made,
The problems of our country —
And those you've strived to aid.
You've learned about your gardens,
And how to get rid of pests —
You've tried to cook new recipes
And hoped they turned out best.
Being WI members
Is what it's all about;
And when you stop and think about
it,

You really want to shout!
55 years of learning — and work-
ing together too —
Continue on this work you do
And God Bless All of You.

Dear WI Members

August has a special image all of her own, even if she comes at the end of a very busy season. To me she seems like a middle-aged lady, pleasant, relaxed, and fulfilled. Oh yes, she's still busy, for many depend on her, but she has a few minutes to rest and to enjoy these peaceful days of summer. There is time for a neighbourly chat and a cup of coffee, time to listen to what a lively teenager has to say, and even a few hours to take a dear little friend to the beach or to a shopping plaza. I can almost see her gazing at the horizon and thinking "this beautiful time is slipping by", for there is a sort of hazy kind of softness in the air, a stillness, a hush, that gives a foretaste of the fall months ahead. Of course, there are times this same female scowls, thunder rolls, and rain falls but, all in all, she is quite a stable lady. Many of the branches reporting profited from the seasonable conditions and "fun" activities were enjoyed.

Mrs. Hatch, **Stanstead**, said "as this is written, summer is on the wane and we are in the mellow days of August. Some of the branches are not so active in the summer, the ladies are busy with canning and freezing." Mrs. M. Sherrer said "August found



This year's Hatley village celebrations found Hatley Centre WI members Mrs. Helen Johnston (man) and Mrs. Doris Shaw enjoying a Sunday drive in the "good old days." The driver is Arthur Laberee.

the branches in **Missisquoi** County enjoying a social time. Members of the four branches gathered at the Town Hall picnic area in Freleightsburg. Following a picnic lunch, all toured the beautiful Bishop Carmichael Anglican Church, which had been built many years ago for a cathedral. Then the members drove the short distance to Camp Garagona. All felt this is an extremely well organized camp, and a great deal of credit goes to Linda Carey of Cowansville, a CEGEP student, who has had four summers' experience working with retarded children. Something special is planned for each day and when we visited, it was Hawaii Day, and the camp children were busy making grass skirts and posters. Reda Lewis, County President, thanked Linda Carey for the work that was being done by the counsellors as well as that done by the District of Bedford Association for the Mentally Retarded." Both **Spooner Pond** and **Melbourne Ridge** held picnics for members and their families, with games and races. **Fordyce** ladies motored to Sherbrooke and toured the Balfour Jewellery Company. All were amazed at the work that goes into the manufacture of costume jewellery, so know why the prices are so high! On their departure each lady was presented with a Canada Unity Pin. **Cowansville** members toured the Cornell

Museum at Stanbridge East and were pleased with the work being done by the Missisquoi County Historical Society. Members from **Cleveland** visited Richmond County Historical Society Museum in Melbourne. This was followed by a picnic in Gouin Park in Richmond. **East Clifton** WI, with husbands, toured the Ethan Allan furniture factory in Beecher Falls. **Ayers Cliff** and **Hatley Centre** visited Stanstead Historical Museum in Beebe. **Valcartier**, at their August meeting, finalized plans for the annual Labour Day Barbeque. It sounds as if it will be an interesting event. Two hundred and twenty barbeques will be ready, as well as hot dogs and lunch plates. A canteen, sales' table, and a drawing for a blanket, a rocking chair, and a jug of wine will all help to make this event a success. To celebrate the fortieth year in Women's Institute, this branch is preparing a new cook book. Some of you will remember the Dominion Day Dance this group had planned. It was a decided success.

This is an interesting highlight. At the **Frontier** meeting, Mrs. Jean Clark reported on the welcome she received at the Alberta Provincial Office in Edmonton and at the Fort Saskatchewan WI meeting. One thing she noted was their colours are blue and silver, while ours are blue and

gold. Then, from the same county, **Pioneer** members entertained over a dozen members from Ever-ready Branch (Vankleek Hill) of the Ontario Women's Institutes at St. Andrew's East. There was a tour of the art exhibit in St. Andrew's East Presbyterian Church Hall and several of the exhibiting painters were from Vankleek Hill area, so the get-together was rewarding and enjoyable. Also **Frontier** reports a membership of 50 with Mrs. Alex Wharry joining at the August meeting.

A clean-up campaign was undertaken by the members of **Grand Cascapedia** involving local children and prizes were given by the WI. The hall was used for a house-warming party for a family and the branch gave them a cash donation. **Port Daniel** is preparing for a sale to be held on the fair grounds. At **New Richmond West**, 12 pairs of knitted socks were handed in to be sent, along with other articles, for CanSave. **Marcil** is also supporting this worthy project.

The **Compton** County WI float, "The Accomplishments of the WI since 1913", won third prize in the July 1 celebration at Bury. **Hatley Centre** entered a float on Canada Day at the village celebration. Mrs. Janet McLellan was the beautiful Queen, and the Institute ladies were, with her, enjoying a tea party in the garden.

Sutton presented a life membership to a beloved member, Mrs. Bernice Russell, who has just retired after 20 years as their loyal Secretary. This took place at a pleasant outdoor meeting at Mrs. Von Glasow's house in sight of the lovely Sutton hills where Bernice has lived all her life. This same reporter writes: "The Sherbrooke Record has been sold to a progressive group of young men and they have given all the WI's very good coverage." **East Angus** members

spent time preparing cancer dressings.

From **Quyon** (Pontiac County) we learn that a turkey supper is being planned for October, a successful Tupperware party had been held, and articles were prepared for an exhibit at Quyon Fair. At the August meeting at **Clarendon**, Mrs. Clarence Knox, on behalf of the group, congratulated Mrs. Ina Kilgour on being appointed President of Quebec Women's Institutes. This branch also prepared articles for Shawville Fair, and it was decided to have a booth at the Steam Show to be held in late August. At **Hemmingford** plans were made for the handicraft and bake sale at the Apple Festival. A contest to make an edible centrepiece was held and the winners of this attractive and unusual display were Gloria Cookman and Mrs. Geisha Schimmelpfeng. At **Howick** the Agriculture Convener reported that the farm population was the lowest on record. The highlight of the meeting was a demonstration on sandwich making.

Some of the groups were fortunate to hear interesting speakers. At **Huntingdon** Dr. Raeburn showed a film while Dr. Gold gave a detailed account of chiropractic treatment and members learned that most illnesses are a result of nerve damage. **East Clifton** had a guest speaker, Mr. Ross Bellam, electrician of Sawyerville, who gave information on the numerous 1977-78 electrical rules and regulations, stressing that electricity is a complex and potentially dangerous area. At **Clarendon**, Mrs. Armour, Education Convener, introduced Mrs. McCord whose topic was education. She said education begins in infancy and continues all our lives and all education does not come from books. Dr. Williams gave a very detailed first aid lesson on heart attack, electric shock, choking, and drowning at **Frontier**. At **Sutton**, the guest

speaker was Miss Christine Miller, a school nurse of many years who told of the work being done in schools and how the nurses follow a regular program of courses to keep up with today's changing world. Care of senior citizens was also stressed. Donations to Macdonald Agricultural Campaign, MAC, have been generous, and we know that they have been appreciated from what we read in the item, "MAC off to a Good Start" in the August issue of the Journal. Recent contributions have come from **Bonaventure**, **Stanstead** and **Pontiac** counties. Many branches support their local 4-H Clubs, and their athletic associations.

"Roll Calls are always of great interest", so writes Hilda Graham from **Gatineau**. At their meeting, the members were to name their favourite spice and how it is used. Nutmeg and cinnamon proved to be the favourites and old-fashioned rice pudding sprinkled with nutmeg was still a number one dessert. The roll call from **Gore**: Give an item of interest from a newspaper, and from **Spooner Pond**: Give a safety-first rule.

This motto is from **New Richmond West**: Many doctors pay their grocery bills with the money of folks who have eaten too much, and from **Dunham**: One tree can make a million matches but one match can destroy a million trees. Then this thought-provoking statement came from Will Rogers, famous American humourist: We may elevate ourselves but we should never reach so high that we would ever forget those who helped us get there.

Just a note to the county publicity conveners to say that the items and reports coming to me are commendable, and I appreciate the friendly personal messages that sometimes accompany them.

Gladys C. Nugent
Publicity Convener, QWI.

— FIRST AGRICULTURAL CENSUS —

A CENSUS OF FARM PRODUCERS — WHY?

We know that a census of Québec farm producers and enterprises will be held from Monday, October 17, to Friday, December 9, 1977. It is the "1977 Agricultural Census", so called because it enables the Québec Department of Agriculture to gather information on the agricultural situation at the end of the year.

Certain people are wondering if such a census is really necessary. Why, they ask, mobilize 300 censors, visit 50,000 farmers, fill in 50,000 questionnaires, devote so much energy to a subject which has already given rise to many studies, surveys and research? Why all this when farmers are already complaining of being consulted too often and of having to answer the questions of too many investigators, censors, researchers or other representatives of public and private sectors?

The Québec Department of Agriculture and the government-related organizations which further its activities, i.e. the Commission administrative des régimes d'assurance-stabilisation des revenus agricoles, the Société québécoise d'initiatives agro-alimentaires, the Farm Credit Bureau, the Crop Insurance Board, the Agricultural Marketing Board and the Québec Sugar Refinery combine their efforts to implement as harmoniously as possible a series of acts and complementary programs to improve the farmer's lot through professional, technical and financial help making it possible to put farms back on a paying basis and diversify and develop their productions. Such an assistance policy in an eco-

nomic sector which is highly vulnerable to foreign competition and to market fluctuations calls for considerable sums that must be used wisely. It is exactly because of the size of public funds thus involved (tens of millions of dollars per year) that the Department feels obliged to determine the exact state of our agriculture and the resources of our 12 agricultural regions.

The "1977 Agricultural Census" (an over-all inventory of our farms, land, equipment and productions) will be the tool which will soon make available to the Department data and figures it now needs.

For those who fear indiscretions, the Department wishes to stress that individual information obtained by censors will remain strictly confidential and for the exclusive use of its personnel.

In any case, the data gathered and the statistics which will be compiled from them will be used in the interest of Québec producers as a whole when the Department has to adopt and apply measures in their favour. Farmers' files being more informative, the aid and the services offered them by the Department will be improved and the application of farm programs will be simplified.

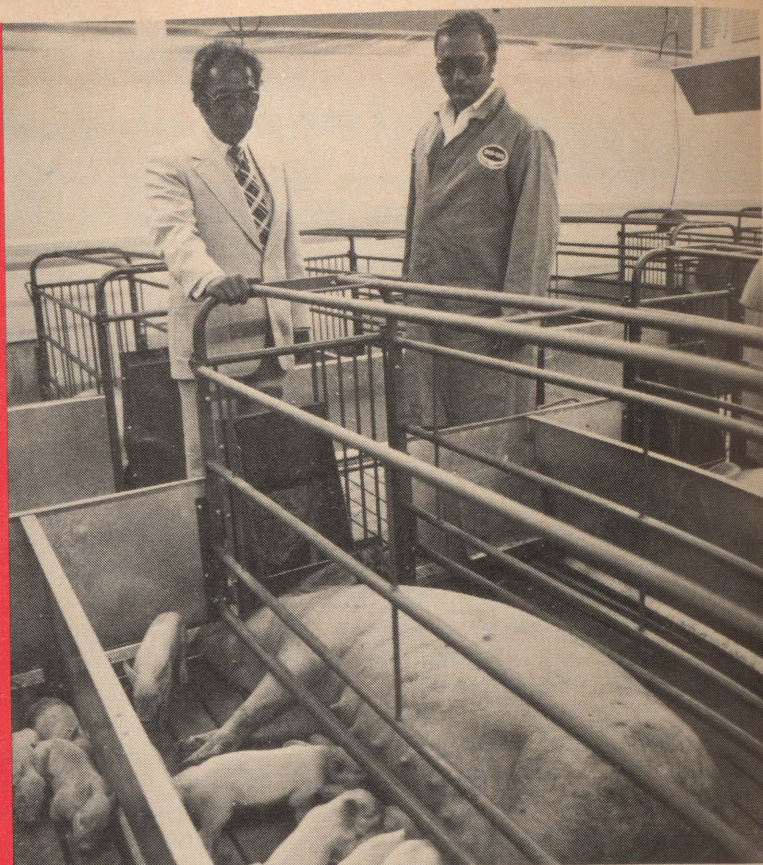
About April 1, 1978, a new farm producer's card will be sent by the Department to farmers interviewed. This annual card will entitle them to the advantages provided for in agricultural programs.

PLOWING MATCH AT LA POCATIERE A GREAT SUCCESS

Champion Plowmen 1977

Senior Provincial:	Jean-Charles Marcil Herbert Winget	Carignan Sherbrooke
Junior Provincial:	Marcel Lanoie Nicole Bouchard	St-Guillaume St-Augustin
Visitors Advanced:	Jean-Charles Marcil	Carignan
Visitors Novice:	Marcel Lanoie	St-Guillaume
Utility:	Armand Pelletier	La Pocatière
Intercollegiate:	Marcel Lanoie	St-Guillaume

Est-il vraiment nécessaire d'utiliser une moulée spéciale pour truies gestantes et pour truies nourricières?



M. Paul Gagnon, président de Ferme Olympique Engr. de St-Pierre de Broughton, regarde avec Robert Lavallée, à SHUR-GAIN, une truie en santé et bien alimentée.

En un mot... oui! Pour une productivité optimum, les truies doivent recevoir des moulées spéciales qui rencontrent leurs besoins, aux différents stades de lactation ou de gestation. Les programmes développés au centre de recherche SHUR-GAIN en production porcine l'ont prouvé en maintes occasions.

Truies gestantes: On économise en utilisant la moulée pour gestation 14% SHUR-GAIN. Cette moulée plus économique, plus haute en fibre, avec l'équilibre adéquat de vitamines et de minéraux, facilite le développement de l'embryon. Cette ration n'engraisse pas trop les truies et leur permet une portée nombreuse de porcelets en santé.

Mise-Bas: La Moulée 16% SHUR-GAIN pour truies à la mise-bas est un produit commode, qui a fait ses preuves pour préparer les truies, une semaine avant et après la mise-bas. Elle aide à prévenir les troubles de digestion et de constipation.

Truies Nourricières: Il est important que la truie ait suffisamment de lait pour nourrir convenablement une portée

nombreuse de porcelets pesants. La moulée 16% SHUR-GAIN pour truies nourricières fournit cette nutrition balancée qui amoindrit le stress de la mise-bas et aide la truie à nourrir une portée active. Les truies nourricières puiseront dans leur réserves, si les minéraux nécessaires ne leur sont pas fournis par la moulée 16% pour truies nourricières.

La condition générale de la truie et sa capacité de concevoir dès la première saillie seront améliorés avec le programme SHUR-GAIN d'alimentation de la truie. Comme résultat direct d'une bonne alimentation pendant la période nourricière, la truie développera une résistance accrue à la maladie, éliminant ainsi les infections secondaires.

En résumé — nous croyons que si vous êtes dans la production porcine pour faire le plus d'argent possible, notre programme d'alimentation pour truies en gestation, truies à la mise-bas et truies nourricières, devrait faire partie intégrante de votre production.

Posez-nous la question...



SHUR-GAIN a la solution.

A — Production Porcine Profitable
Canada Packers Limited
Division SHUR-GAIN
C. P. 6045 — Station A, Montréal, Québec H3C 3A7

Oui! Je suis intéressé à en savoir davantage sur votre programme d'alimentation et de gestion pour truies nourricières et gestantes.

Nom _____

Adresse _____

Code Postal _____ Tél.: _____